



# San Diego City Attorney **MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **AGUIRRE CONGRATULATES SDG&E ON SOLAR ANNOUNCEMENT BUT URGES MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE**

**San Diego, CA**—City Attorney Michael Aguirre today congratulated San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) on its proposal to build and own solar electric systems in this region. But he emphasized that much more needs to be done.

“With a looming state mandate requiring all investor-owned utilities to derive 20 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2010, SDG&E needs to accelerate its efforts to reach compliance,” said Aguirre.

He noted that SDG&E’s current 6 percent level of renewable energy remains the lowest among the state’s major utilities. Pacific Gas & Electric is deriving 12 percent of its electricity from renewable sources. Southern California Edison is generating 16 percent of its electricity from renewable sources.

The City Attorney has suggested SDG&E undertake a solar initiative similar to one proposed earlier this year by Southern California Edison, which plans to build and operate 250 megawatts of rooftop photovoltaic systems across its service territory. (A single megawatt is sufficient to power about 650 homes.)

As the City’s chief legal officer, the City Attorney oversees the utility franchise agreement that allows SDG&E to operate on City streets and roads. Section 6 of that agreement requires SDG&E to operate in accordance with all state laws and orders of the California Public Utilities Commission.

Aguirre has emphasized that a failure to comply with state law or CPUC orders regarding the renewable energy mandate could have implications for the franchise agreement.

Further assessment of SDG&E’s efforts are contained in the July 8, 2008, City Attorney Interim Report No. 32, *California’s Renewable Energy Mandate in Peril: San Diego Gas & Electric Must do More to Reach 20 Percent Renewable Energy by 2010*, which can view viewed by visiting [www.sandiegocityattorney.org](http://www.sandiegocityattorney.org), click “Significant Reports and Legal Documents.”

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